

MUSEUM LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

NEWS & PROGRAMS | JULY-AUGUST 2019

A BEAUTIFUL SPRING ON OUR NEW CAMPUS

Our magnificent new campus came to life this spring thanks to the dedication and green thumbs of Hortulus, the Greenwich Garden Club and members of our Green Team.

In the Tavern Garden, colorful bulbs lined the walkway between the new museum building and the 1805 Storehouse, site of our administrative offices. Many thanks to the Greenwich Garden Club who made this lovely new landscape possible for all visitors to enjoy.



The new Tavern Garden, made possible by the Greenwich Garden Club.



New perennial flower beds, a gift of Hortulus.

The Heirloom Vegetable and Herb Garden was relocated as part of our reimagined campus. Vegetable and perennial flower gardens were integral features of the Holley House between 1890 and 1920 when it was a boarding house for Connecticut's first American Impressionist art colony. The Hortulus Impressionistera gardens provide visitors a sense of the landscape that inspired works by the Cos Cob art colony and provided fresh produce for its guests.

Anna Greco has developed an educational program for our summer campers based on an area of the garden dedicated to plants that were used to dve fabric.

Thank you to Green Team members
Rosemarie Anner, Lindsay Baker, Virginia
Cheney, Dimple Desai, Joan Faust,
Jonathan Glass, Anna and Joe Greco,
Jason Grippo, Yuka Kominami, Susan
Norton, Catherine Stahl, Winnie Staniford
and Dr. Ron Wilson. Gardening enthusiasts
are always welcome. Contact Michele
Couture at mcouture@greenwichhistory.
org or 203-869-6899, Ext. 15.



Thank you to the Greenwich Land Trust for generously housing our seedlings.



Green Team members plant the Heirloom Vegetable and Herb Garden.

NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH WATSON'S CATERING AND EVENTS

We are excited to announce an exclusive partnership with Watson's Catering and Events for all of our special events at The Barn & Gardens at Greenwich Historical Society. Watson's is a Greenwich neighbor and has been in business for more than 26 years. Our newly transformed, unique and versatile spaces, coupled with Watson's elevated food and supremely executed service, are the perfect combination.

Please think of us when planning your birthday parties, rehearsal dinners, weddings, corporate events and not-for-

profit fundraisers.

WAT SON'S
CATERING & EVENTS

Watson's is offering a free chef to any Greenwich Historical Society donor at the Patron, Benefactor or Leadership Circle level who books a party at The Barns & Gardens at Greenwich Historical Society. Also, the first two weddings booked on our campus under this new partnership will

receive 50 percent off the site rental fee!

For more information, contact Michele Couture at the Greenwich Historical Society at 203-869-6899, Ext. 15 or mcouture@greenwichhistory.org; or contact Watson's directly at 203-532-0132 or watsonscatering.com.



NEW TRUSTEES

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

Thank you for going above and beyond with your involvement in the Greenwich Historical Society! Not only are you supporting us with contributions; you are passionate about our work and are proud to identify with us.

Since the opening of our reimagined campus in October, we have been pleased to offer successful events, innovative programming, volunteer opportunities and community-building activities. Please let us know how we're doing!

If you know of anyone who might like to become a member, or if you are not a member and are interested in joining, please contact Membership Manager Laura Kelly at 203-869-6899, Ext. 14 or lkelly@greenwichhistory.org, complete and mail the business return envelope included in this newsletter, or sign up at greenwichhistory.org.

We look forward to seeing you at our next event, or program, at our café, in our Museum Store or simply exploring our beautiful gardens. Thank you again for your continued involvement in the Greenwich Historical Society.

Debra L. Mecky

Debra Mecky, PhD Executive Director & CEO Greenwich Historical Society

GREENWICH HISTORIC TRUST SPRING EVENT



Left to right: Margaret Bragg, Bea Crumbine, Desmond Fitzgerald, James Daras, Karen Coxe and Natalie Pray

On May 21, Mary Quick and Jim Daras welcomed more than 70 longtime Greenwich Historical Society supporters and friends to their home for a reception to recognize the significant impact their generosity has on the depth and breadth of programming, exhibits, events and partnerships that are made possible through their philanthropy. Greenwich Historical Society is grateful to First Republic Bank for sponsoring this Greenwich Historic Trust event and to event chairs Robert Getz, Anne Ogilvy and Deborah Schmidt Robinson.

Greenwich Historical Society is honored to welcome three accomplished individuals to our Board of Trustees.



HEATHER GEORGES

A full-time mother of three, Heather Hoyt Georges is the former owner and operator of Hoyt-Levasseur LLC, an interior decorating firm formerly in Manhattan. She holds a BA from Wheaton College and an MA from the New School of Social Research/The Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum.

Georges is a member of the Association of the Board of the Metropolitan Opera and is currently also involved with the New York City Ballet, Greenwich Land Trust, Family Centers and Greenwich Country Day School. In addition, she serves on the Decorating Committee of the Wianno Club in Osterville, MA.



MICHAEL KOVNER

A longtime patron of the Greenwich Historical Society, Michael Kovner is a real estate broker at Brown, Harris, Stevens in New York City and an active member of the Real Estate Board of New York. He is also an instructor whose course, "A History of Residential Real Estate in Manhattan," is accredited by the

State of New York. Kovner was educated at Rye Country Day School, Trinity-Pawling School and Lafayette College, and he did postgraduate work at Georgetown University's Foreign Service School and at the University of Dijon in Dijon, France.

A decorated U.S. Army Captain (retired), Kovner has long been an advocate for veterans. A supporter of the arts and historic preservation, he is a board member or trustee of institutions including the Bruce Museum, Jay Heritage Center and Nantucket Preservation Trust. He splits his time among homes in Manhattan, Greenwich, Palm Beach and Nantucket.



DMITRI WRIGHT

An artist whose work focuses on the preservation and progress of Impressionism, Dmitri Wright is Greenwich Historical Society's artistin-residence and a valued instructor at our Art and History Camp. He is also the Master Artist/Instructor for Weir Farm National Historic Site and an instructor at Silvermine Art School, Wright's work

is included in hundreds of collections and has been exhibited at the Brooklyn Museum, National Arts Club and Mattatuck Museum, among others.

Wright studied at Cooper Union and Brooklyn Museum Art School and was valedictorian at the Newark School of Fine & Industrial Arts. His artistic lineage can be traced to an original American Impressionist. One of Wright's mentors, Samuel Brecher, studied under Charles W. Hawthorne, who was a student of William Merritt Chase.

To learn more about these events, please visit greenwichhistory.org or call 203-869-6899.



THIS PLACE MATTERS PHOTO CONTEST ENDS

Deadline for submission: Monday, July 1

Have you taken a great picture of Greenwich? July 1 is the last day to submit a photo

to the This Place Matters Photo Contest. The top three will be published in *Greenwich Magazine*, Exclusive Magazine Sponsor of This Place Matters, and displayed in our museum lobby. Winning photos will be announced at the July 18 Greenwich Founders' Day event.



ART AND HISTORY CAMP BEGINS

Monday, July 8

There are limited spaces still available for our unique and highly interactive Art and History Camp for kids in grades 2-8, which begins July 8. Campers will learn about our town's fascinating history and create Impressionist art and crafts projects; all weeks include STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) activities. July 8-19 is for grades 5-8; July 22-August 2 is for grades 2-4.



FOUNDERS' DAY

Thursday, July 18; 10:00 am Innis Arden Cottage at Greenwich Point Park Free

Celebrate the founding of Greenwich with a reading of the original July 18, 1640 deed

and announcement of the winners of This Place Matters Photo Contest. Following the program, guests will be able to tour the Feake-Ferris House, the oldest house in Greenwich and one of the oldest in America, via shuttles and tours organized by the Greenwich Point Conservancy. The entire July 18 Founders' Day event is free of charge but reservations are required.



ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 18

Save the date for our 88th Annual Meeting, an opportunity to learn about our milestone year and hear bestselling author Therese Anne Fowler talk about Alva Vanderbilt, the subject of *A Well-Behaved Woman—A Novel of the Vanderbilts*. In development by Sony Pictures Television, the dramatic and compelling Gilded Age tale follows Alva

Smith, whose Southern family was destitute after the Civil War, as she marries William K. Vanderbilt, navigates society and defies convention by becoming a leader in the women's suffrage movement.

HAMILTON AVENUE PARTNERSHIP



A Hamilton Avenue student proudly points out her quilt panel..

In the 2018-2019 school year, Greenwich Historical Society educators led 280 Hamilton Avenue School students in grades 1 to 5 in unique gradespecific programs designed to supplement social studies and art curricula standards.

Inspired by their visits to Bush-Holley House, 56 third graders made quilt panels that were combined into a quilt. Forty-seven fourth grade students worked with professional painter Ilse Gordon to create their own self-portrait after studying those in Bush-Holley House. Twelve fifth grade students participated in an

after-school program to become student docents.

The student-created quilt and self-portraits were displayed for students, their families and teachers at a May reception during which the student docents led tours of Bush-Holley House.

This partnership aims to break down barriers between students and their families to visiting cultural institutions. By the time students graduate they should feel a sense of ownership and an understanding that they are contributing to the story of Greenwich. This program is made possible by an educational endowment for Title I school programming. If you'd like to help us expand this program to additional Title I schools in Greenwich, please contact Development Director Mary K. Vinton at 203-869-6899, Ext. 13 or mvinton@greenwichhistory.org.

LIGHT BITES IN THE ARTISTS' CAFÉ

We are pleased to announce a partnership with Kevin Allmashy, executive chef and owner of Executive Corner Deli in Byram, to provide healthy, light fare for our Artists' Café. Catering locally since 2005, Executive Corner Deli also provides food services for Greenwich Library and Byram Pool. Fresh sandwiches are made with Metro Deli cold cuts, which are all natural, and



The Armstrong family enjoying refreshments in the Artists' Café.

tempting baked items entice café visitors.

Open daily, the Artists' Café's hours are Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4:00 pm.

47 Strickland Road, Cos Cob, CT 06807

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Stamford, CT Permit No. 1776

HOURS

HOLIDAY CLOSING

July 4

OFFICE

Monday through Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm

MUSEUM STORE AND CAFÉ

Monday through Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm; Saturday and Sunday, noon-4:00 pm



MUSEUM GALLERIES

Wednesday through
Sunday, noon-4:00 pm
Guided tours Wednesday and
Saturday at noon

BUSH-HOLLEY HOUSE

Guided tours Wednesday through Sunday, 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 pm

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

Wednesdays, 10:00 am-4:00 pm and by appointment



ADMISSION

\$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$7 group rate Free: Youth under 18, members, active military/Blue Star Free for all the first Wednesday of every month.

Visit all 21 museums on the Connecticut Art Trail for \$25. Buy a passport in the museum lobby or at ctarttrail.org.



greenwichhistory



GreenwichHistoricalSociety



GrnHistCT

AWARD CORNER

CONNECTICUT TRUST AWARD



The Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation presented an Award of Merit to the Greenwich Historical Society in April in recognition of how our newly reimagined campus furthers our mission and revitalizes an important place in the history of American Impressionism. The awards program honors outstanding achievement in protecting and nourishing Connecticut's

significant buildings, landscapes and communities, and the individuals and organizations whose work makes historic places shine and serve as an inspiration for others.

GRANT FOR ADA COMPLIANCE



We are grateful to the Community Development Block Grant Committee (CDBG) and to Greenwich First Selectman Peter Tesei for approving \$63,686 of federal funds to make our campus more accessible to people of all abilities. The funds will be used to reconstruct the ADA-compliant walkway that links the Vanderbilt Education

Center to the Bush-Holley House and to the new Museum and Archives building; and also to add a required railing and lighting for visitors to this National Historic Landmark site. The completion of the project fulfills our goals—which began with the installation of an elevator funded by the CDBG—to make the site, tours and programs of the Greenwich Historical Society accessible to all. The work will begin in late summer and will be carried out in conjunction with the replacement of the grape arbor, which is funded by a generous grant from Hortulus.

OUR MISSION

GREENWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY preserves and interprets Greenwich history to strengthen the community's connection to our past, to each other and to our future.

SAVE THE DATES

JULY 1: This Place Matters Photo Contest Ends

JULY 8-AUGUST 2
Art and History Camp

JULY 18 Founders' Day

SEPTEMBER 18
Annual Meeting